AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the

application:

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Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Original) A medical device comprising a stimulation compound that

stimulates production of VEGF, the medical device being an implantable medical

device, a catheter, a dressing or a surgical instrument.

Claim 2 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the stimulation compound

comprises a polypeptide.

Claim 3 (Original) The medical device of claim 2 wherein the polypeptide comprises

hypoxia-inducible factor 1.

Claim 4 (Original) The medical device of claim 2 wherein the polypeptide comprises

hypoxia-inducible factor 1-alpha.

Claim 5 (Original) The medical device of claim 2 wherein the polypeptide comprises

a mutant form of hypoxia-inducible factor 1-alpha that is more stable than the native

form under non-hypoxia conditions.

Page 2

Docket Number: 01610.0039-US-01

Office Action Response

Claim 6 (Original) The medical device of claim 2 wherein the polypeptide binds to

the VEGF hypoxia response element.

Claim 7 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the stimulation compound

stimulates transcription of VEGF.

Claim 8 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the medical device

comprises a heart valve prosthesis.

Claim 9 (Original) The medical device of claim 8 wherein the valve has flexible

leaflets.

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Claim 10 (Original) The medical device of claim 9 wherein the flexible leaflets

comprise a polymer.

Claim 11 (Original) The medical device of claim 9 wherein the flexible leaflets

comprise tissue.

Claim 12 (Original) The medical device of claim 11 wherein the stimulation

compound is associated with the tissue leaflets.

Claim 13 (Original) The medical device of claim 9 wherein the heart valve prosthesis

further comprises a support structure supporting the leaflets and a sewing cuff.

Claim 14 (Original) The medical device of claim 13 wherein the sewing cuff

comprises fabric and wherein the fabric is associated with the stimulation compound.

Claim 15 (Original) The medical device of claim 13 wherein the stimulation

compound is associated with the support structure supporting the leaflets.

Claim 16 (Original) The medical device of claim 8 wherein the valve has a rigid

pivoting occluder.

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Claim 17 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 comprising a sewing cuff wherein

the stimulation compound is associated with the sewing cuff.

Claim 18 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the medical device

comprises a vascular graft.

Claim 19 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the medical device

comprises a polymer material in which VEGF production stimulator is incorporated

within the polymer material.

Claim 20 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the prosthesis comprises

tissue.

Page 4

Docket Number: 01610.0039-US-01 Office Action Response Claim 21 (Original) The medical device of claim 20 wherein the tissue is crosslinked.

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Claim 22 (Original) The medical device of claim 20 wherein the tissue is uncrosslinked.

Claim 23 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the prosthesis comprises at least about 10 mg of stimulation compound.

Claim 24 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the prosthesis comprises at least about 100 mg of stimulation compound.

Claim 25 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the medical device is a vascular stent comprising a biocompatible material.

Claim 26 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the stimulation compound is releasably bound to a material of the medical device.

Claim 27 (Original) The medical device of claim 26 wherein the stimulation compound is adhesively bonded.

Claim 28 (Original) The medical device of claim 26 wherein the stimulation compound is covalently bonded.

Claim 29 (Original) The medical device of claim 26 wherein the stimulation

compound is microencapsulated.

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Claim 30 (Original) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the medical device

comprises an annuloplasty ring.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended) A method for producing a medical device, the

method comprising associating a stimulation compound with a biocompatible material

to stimulate the production of growth factors.

Claim 32 (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein associating the stimulation

compound with the biocompatible material comprises direct association.

Claim 33 (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein associating the stimulation

compound with the biocompatible material comprises chemical bonding.

Claim 34 (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein associating the stimulation

compound with the biocompatible material comprises adhesive bonding.

Claim 35 (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein associating the stimulation

compound with the biocompatible material comprises incorporating the stimulation

compound into the matrix of the biocompatible material.

Page 6

Docket Number: 01610.0039-US-01 Office Action Response